INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/CA2004/000577

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 E02F3/38 A01G23/085 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 E02F A01G Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category * Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. US 4 015 728 A (BARKER NOBLE G ET AL) 1-7 5 April 1977 (1977-04-05) column 3, line 4 - line 24 column 3, line 47 - line 56; figures US 4 767 255 A (MICKELSON ROGER D ET AL) 1-7 30 August 1988 (1988-08-30) column 3, line 15 - line 26; figures US 4 307 991 A (BRIDWELL JOHN W ET AL) 1,4-729 December 1981 (1981-12-29) column 1, line 67 -column 2, line 62; figures DE 198 43 429 A (KUBOTA KK) 1,4-78 April 1999 (1999-04-08) column 3, line 12 - line 24; figures 1,3 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the considered to be of particular relevance invention earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another involve an inventive slep when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document is combined with one or more other such docuother means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 30/08/2004 18 August 2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl. Bunn, D Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/CA2004/000577

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3

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